

Serial No. 10/822,120

Docket No. 117-P-1345USD2

Amendments to the Claims

A detailed list of all claims under examination is shown below. Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice and amend claims 1, 3-19, 31 and 36-39 as shown below in marked form:

1. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor comprising a strippable intermediate coating atop the substrate, and a ~~strip-agent-permeable-coating~~ topcoat atop the intermediate coating, wherein the ~~strip-agent-permeable-coating-comprised~~ topcoat comprises a mixed two-part curable composition and which after cure or hardening is less strippable and more durable than the intermediate coating and sufficiently strip agent permeable so that when the topcoat is subjected to the action of a suitable strip agent the topcoat and intermediate coating can be stripped without damaging the floor.

Claim 2 cancelled.

3. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~substrate~~ floor comprises a resilient flooring material.

4. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 3, wherein the ~~substrate~~ resilient flooring material comprises a ~~vinyl~~ vinyl or vinyl composite tile flooring.

5. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein the ~~substrate comprises a wall, ceiling, label, emblem, sign or vehicle~~ resilient flooring material comprises vinyl composite tiles.

6. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate coating comprises a metal-catalyzed acrylic finish.

7. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate coating has a strippability rating of 6 or more on a 7 point scale, corresponding to at least partial strip with softened finish in all areas, using a test strip agent made using a 25% water solution of a concentrate that contained 59% softened water, 6% sodium xylene

Serial No. 10/822,120

Docket No. 117-P-1345USD2

sulfonate, 4.5% potassium hydroxide, 10% monoethanolamine, 0.2% tetrasodium EDTA, 10% ethylene glycol phenyl ether and 0.05% fluorosurfactant, and a 10 minute standing time.

8. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate coating has a dry coating thickness of about 5 to about 38 micrometers.
9. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat comprises a ~~polymerized~~ polymerizable material.
10. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat ~~comprised~~ comprises a photopolymerizable material.
11. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat ~~comprised~~ comprises a thermally curable material.
12. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat comprises an acrylate, urethane or acrylated urethane.
13. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 12, wherein the topcoat comprises an aromatic urethane.
14. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 12, wherein the topcoat comprises an aliphatic polyester urethane.
15. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat is not ~~metal-crosslinked~~ metal-catalyzed.
16. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein after cure or hardening the topcoat has a strippability rating of 4 or less on a 7 point scale, corresponding to no more than severe chemical attack on the topcoat and the onset of stripping, using a test strip agent made using a 25% water solution of a concentrate that contained 59% softened water, 6% sodium xylene sulfonate, 4.5% potassium hydroxide, 10% monoethanolamine,

Serial No. 10/822,120

Docket No. 117-P-1345USD2

0.2% tetrasodium EDTA, 10% ethylene glycol phenyl ether and 0.05% fluorosurfactant, and a 10 minute standing time.

17. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat has a thickness after cure or hardening of about 5 to about 38 micrometers.

18. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate coating or topcoat comprise two or more different layers of materials.

19. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises a floor and the strip agent-permeable coating comprises a UV curable finish.

Claims 20-30 cancelled.

31. (currently amended): A method for applying a finish to a ~~substrate~~ floor, comprising:

- a) applying to the ~~substrate~~ floor a strippable intermediate coating;
- b) allowing the intermediate coating to dry or harden; and
- c) applying a ~~strip agent permeable~~ topcoat to the intermediate coating,

wherein the topcoat comprises a mixed two-part curable composition and which after cure or hardening is less strippable and more durable than the intermediate coating and sufficiently strip agent permeable so that when the topcoat is subjected to the action of a suitable strip agent the topcoat and intermediate coating can be stripped without damaging the floor.

32. (previously presented): A method according to claim 31, wherein the topcoat is thermally curable.

33. (original): A method according to claim 31, wherein the intermediate coating is applied in two or more coats.

Serial No. 10/822,120

Docket No. 117-P-1345USD2

34. (original): A method according to claim 31, wherein the topcoat is applied in two or more coats.

35. (previously presented): A method according to claim 34, wherein each of said two or more coats is cured before application of any further coat.

36. (currently amended): A method ~~for removing a finish from a substrate~~ according to claim 31, comprising the further steps of:

- a) ~~d) applying a strip agent to a laminate finish comprising a strip agent permeable coating atop a strippable intermediate coating atop a substrate, wherein the strip agent permeable coating comprises a two part curable composition and is less strippable and more durable than the intermediate coating~~ the topcoat;
- b) ~~e) allowing the strip agent to permeate through the topcoat to attack the intermediate layer coating; and~~
- e) ~~f) removing the intermediate layer coating and topcoat without removing substantial portions of the underlying substrate~~ floor.

37. (currently amended): A method according to claim 36, wherein permeation of the strip agent through the topcoat is ~~enhanced by a~~ by mechanically roughening the topcoat prior to applying the strip agent.

38. (currently amended): A method according to claim 36, wherein removal of the intermediate layer coating and topcoat occurs in less than 10 minutes after application of the strip agent.

39. (currently amended): A coated ~~substrate~~ floor according to claim 1, wherein the topcoat comprises a urethane.

40. (previously presented): A method according to claim 31, wherein the topcoat comprises a urethane.